Benefit of P.D S. to the poor house hold

1041 SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA. Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a vast majority of poor households of the country do not get any benefit from the public distribution system as in operation at present and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government propose to extend the same facilities to this chunk of the population; and

(c) by when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI SARWAR HUSSAIN) (a) to (c) The Public Distribution System (PDS) is universal in character and is implemented to make available certain key essential commodities *viz*, rice, wheat levy sugar, kerosene, imported edible oil, soft coke etc to the people including the weaker and vulnerable sections of the population, at reasonable prices

Efforts are, nevertheless, made on a continual basis by the Union and State Governments/UT Administrations to strengthen and streamline its working

Memorial for Shrimati Vijayalakshmi Pandit

10402. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI· Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state·

(a) whether it is a fact that Mrs Vijaylakshmi Pandit played a prominent role in the country's political scenario for over six decades,

(b) whether Government propose to make some memorial in her momry as a token of her contributions to buildfi modern India; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DAULAT RAM SARAN): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) At present there is no proposal under the consideration of this Ministry to build a memorial for Smt Vijaylakshmi Pandit at New Delhi

(c) Does not arise.

Setting up of New Co-operative suger Mills in Maharashtra

1043 DR. BAPU KALDATE. Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state

(a) what are the details of the proposals received by Government for setting up of Co-operative Sugar Factories in Maharashtra since the beginning of 1990,

(b) whether these proposals have been processed;

(c) which of these proposals have been accepted; and

(d) by when the remaining proposals ae likely to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI SARWAR HUSSAIN)· (a) to (c) As per the information available with the Department of Food, 153 proposa s received for setting up of Cooperative Sugar Factories in Maharashtra since the beginning of 1990 till 17-12-1990 are still pending. Details of the aforesaid proposals are given in the statement

[*See* Appendix CLVI, Annexure No. 22]

(d) The Licensing Policy for Sugar Industry for the 8th Five Year Plan is under review of the Government and all pending proposals would be considered in that light